



MONTEREY NEWS

JUNE 1992



TOWN NEWS

On April 27, the Board of Selectmen hosted a farewell celebration for Matt Williams, who retired from the Board after nine years of service. Mr. Williams, who has also served many years on other town boards, will be recognized by the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association for his outstanding service. On May 4, newly elected Selectman Peter Brown was welcomed to the Board. At the same meeting, Bill Bohn was voted Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Georgiana O'Connell was voted Chairman of the Board of Health, and Peter Brown was voted Chairman of the Roads and Machinery Committee.

The annual town meeting on May 2 was lightly attended. Those present heard Southern Berkshire Regional School District Superintendent Thomas Consolati discuss the school budget. He explained that although the overall school budget would increase, Monterey's share would decrease slightly due to a small drop in local property values. Selectman Georgiana O'Connell presented Mr. Consolati with a ceremonial shovel to commemorate the completion of the new Mount Everett Regional High School.

Several warrant articles generated discussion. Article 4 requested an appropriation of \$160,000 for a town vault. Town Clerk Barbara Swann, who authored the request, was joined by Cynthia Weber in a plea to properly preserve town documents. Nick Wool of the Finance Committee said that the article was poorly written, presented at the last minute, and lacked an official cost estimate. It was also pointed out that the town has free document storage privileges at Mount Everett Regional High School. Article 4 was passed over.

Article 7, requesting an appropriation of \$80,000 for a truck with dump body, plow and sander for the Highway Department, was questioned by several

people. Richard Tryon and Roger Tryon proposed that the truck not be used for plowing, which they believe greatly shortens the life of a truck. Matt Williams said that if the new truck could not be used for plowing, the town would have only three trucks for that purpose, which would not be enough. Steven Bynack of the Highway Department explained that two of the other trucks are too light to plow effectively in heavy snow, and the new truck was essential for plowing in severe storms. Article 7 passed as written.

Article 18 proposed an addition to the bylaws that would require hunters to get written permission to hunt on town or private property. The fine for a first violation would be \$100, while the fine for a second violation could be as much as \$300. A motion to limit the bylaw to cover only town property was voted down. Several people spoke in opposition to the article, saying that it would curtail individual rights and that it seemed to give police the right to enter private property in the absence of the owner. Others spoke in favor of the article, saying that it has always been illegal to hunt on private land without the owner's permission, but that the police have not been given the power to enforce the law. In the end, Article 18 was passed as written.



ELEANOR KIMBERLEY

Article 22 proposed an amendment to the bylaws that would create a Zoning Enforcement Board consisting of three members: one from the Board of Appeals, one from the Planning Board and the Building Inspector. Peter Murkett spoke for the Board of Appeals, saying that the ZEB could help clarify confusing situations. Rather than add time to the building permit application process, the ZEB might sometimes expedite it for people who mistakenly believe they need a special permit. Dean Amidon questioned the legality of having a Board of Appeals member serve on such a board, and indicated his opposition to a proposal that seemed to add another layer of complexity to an already complex process. Matt Williams spoke for the Board of Selectmen, indicating their belief that the article did not adequately address the problems of the building permit process. Article 22 was defeated.

The issue of whether to use the Great Barrington or the Pittsfield dispatch center for the enhanced 911 system (see *Town News* in the May and February, 1992 issues of the *Monterey News*) was discussed under Article 27. Basically, the Fire Department favored using the Pittsfield center, while the Police department favored Great Barrington. Because the signal from Great Barrington is poor and because the town was threatened with revocation of mutual aid (police help and facilities) if we did not choose great Barrington, the voters decided in favor of the Pittsfield center.

Also under Article 27, the Selectmen were asked to create a new committee to investigate the feasibility of building a new town hall. The proposal passed, and at their May 4 meeting, the Selectmen discussed hiring a consultant to the committee. They also decided that the town hall site selected by a previous town hall committee (on a parcel of town-owned land off Route

23) should stand. The new committee will determine building needs, including computer security, and should be prepared to present building plans to the town meeting in May, 1993.

In other news, the Selectmen discussed plans to remove raccoons from the transfer station. It was decided to allow Wildlife Control Officer Dale Duryea to trap the raccoons on one day, for which he will be paid \$30.

The Board of Health has changed its meeting time to Monday mornings, 10:30-11:15. The Selectmen will meet at 11:15, following the Board of Health meeting, in addition to their regular Monday evening meeting at 7:30.

The following building permit applications were approved: Gould Farm, for the relocation and widening of doors in the main hall and structural repairs to beams; Larry and Elizabeth Silk for the renovation of their Gould Road house, submitted by Steven MacLeay, the builder; Harvey Halberstadter of Cranford, New Jersey, to enlarge the deck of his Route 57, Lake Buel house, submitted by Jon Andrus, the builder; Edith Green of New York City, for the replacement of a dock at her Sullivan Road, Lake Garfield property, submitted by Mark Amstead, the contractor; Gerard and Carole Clarin, for the construction of a shed and deck attached to their Sylvan Road house, submitted by Keith Clarin; Walter Parks, for the construction of a new roof at his Route 23 house.

— Maggie Leonard

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CHURCH NEWS

In his new book, *Care of the Soul*, Thomas Moore writes: "There are two ways of thinking about church and religion. One is that we go to church in order to be in the presence of the holy, to learn and to have our lives influenced by that presence. The other is that the church teaches us directly and symbolically to see the sacred dimension of everyday life."

How often have you heard people speak about going to "God's house" to pray? As if the only place one can truly be spiritually connected to God is in a church sanctuary. Or that worship, if it is to be authentic, must take place in a "holy place" on Sunday morning. Preferably in a quaint white church (or a Gothic cathedral) with a tall steeple pointing heavenward, pews facing a large cross, and with organ music punctuating the silence. And, of course, a minister (or priest) garbed in a black robe (or white cassock), speaking in the deep, resonant, somber tones that only a pious man (certainly not a woman) can intone. It is only in this "sacred" environment that one can truly experience and be in the presence of the holy.

I hope that most of us have moved beyond the limitations of Sunday morning. Whether a church is made of wood or brick or straw; does or doesn't have a steeple; uses pews, chairs or pillows; utilizes an organ, piano, guitar or silence; has a leader attired in a robe, suit or dress, is not of ultimate importance. What is important is the gathering of God's children who seek to rediscover their spiritual identity, share the common life of faith with their sisters and brothers, and then bring the Sabbath experience to the rest of their daily lives, marking each day as holy.

As Moore states, "For some, religion is a Sunday affair, and they risk dividing life into the holy Sabbath and the secular week. For others, religion is a weeklong observance that is inspired and sustained on the Sabbath." In other words, all of life is holy. It is the Sabbath worship experience that can help unlock the doors enabling us to recognize the sacredness of each moment, the spiritual foundation for every action and relationship.

Moore likens our daily spirituality (nourished by our Sabbath refreshment) to an organic garden of the

ordinary. "Spirituality is seeded, germinates, sprouts and blossoms in the mundane. It is to be found and nurtured in the smallest of daily activities. . .the spirituality that feeds the soul may be found in those sacred objects that dress themselves in the accoutrements of the ordinary." The purpose of the church, then, is to help us discover the sacred dimensions of everyday life. That is, indeed, what the church is all about.

— Cliff Aerie



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CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM

Many thanks to all the families, playgroup leaders, volunteers and businesses who helped make Family Fun Day a success. There are photos of various events on display at CHP.

We are planning a trip to Forest Park Zoo in Springfield on June 24 (raindate June 25). We will meet at CHP at 9:00 a.m. Bring a picnic lunch. Fees for zoo admission and train rides are: Children up to age 4: \$1.30; Ages 5-12: \$2.30; Adults: \$3.30.

Once again this year, the Stockbridge Road Association is bringing the Big Apple Circus to Great Barrington in July. If we buy tickets in groups of 20 or more, we will receive a discount. If you'd like to do this, or if you'd like to sponsor a child's trip to the circus, call Claudette at 528-9311, or Wendy at 528-4007.

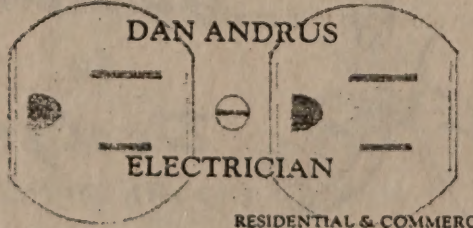
Thanks to a donation from Kripalu, Family Services has expanded its video collection. New titles are: *1-2-3-Magic* (tips for parents of toddlers through adolescents), *All About Kids' Safety*, *How Can I Tell If I Am Really in Love?* and *It's OK to Say No to Drugs*. Our free video lending library now has more than fifty items about family issues. For more information or a list of available titles, contact Claudette.

Special thanks to Anne Miller, CHP Board member, Parent-to-Parent volunteer and playgroup mother, for arranging a Family Fun Raffle to fund summer activities. Many wonderful prizes are offered, and each chance costs only \$1. Please call Claudette for raffle tickets.

— Claudette Callahan

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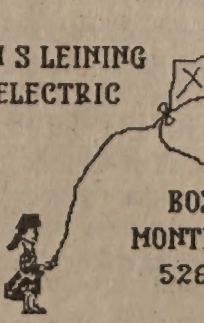
The Monterey Town Beach will open for the season on Saturday, June 20. Our lifeguard of the past two summers, Jennifer Hall, will be with us again. Jennifer will be teaching the Red Cross swimming programs July 27-31 and August 3-7. Sign-up sheets will be available at the General Store. Beach passes will be available Saturday mornings at the town hall. There will be Port-a-Johns for public use at the beach and at Greene Park.

The ball field is in great shape for the Little League season. The entire field has been rolled, the infield has been renovated with sand and clay, and in spite of a dreadful fall and winter for new grass, grass is appearing in the new section of the outfield. Coach Leroy Thorpe continues to bear an unfair share of regular maintenance of the field (24 years worth). We would like to see some more parents of Little Leaguers support the coach and team with volunteer time. Also, the summer softball game, long a Monterey tradition, will add a ritual post-game raking of the infield to its program.

We would like to thank Brook Walsh for repairing the damaged backboards for the basketball court free of charge. We ask that people refrain from parking on the basketball court. We'd also like to thank those people who helped dismantle the hockey rink. Next winter, everyone who plays hockey will be given an ice-making time slot to distribute the work load more equitably. And finally, we'd like to thank our town Highway Department for assisting us in the many tasks they so willingly undertake. Thanks, guys!

— Mick Burns
Tom Rosenthal
Jim Thomas

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OUR TOWN

Let Me Explain. . .Subdivisions

Most people are a lot quicker than I am. They skip the introductions to books and go right to the heart of it. They can read a newspaper in five minutes. When they learn a computer application, they start by throwing away the documentation. If they've run a chainsaw for years, why read the manual on a new one? I have elementary books lying around on every subject from economics to planting trees, even though I've studied these things on an advanced level. I don't encourage everyone to go to my extremes, but I think that we sometimes need to go back to basics, to restate some things that some people know already and some people haven't understood completely. What I'm getting to is the subject of subdivisions in our town.

The Planning Board has supervised the approval process for three subdivisions in town in the last few years. They include: Fox Hill (Amstead), which lies just northwest of the town center, and Monterey Woods (Yost) and Lady's Slipper Farm (Mielke), which are next to one another on the south side of Route 23 in the Stevens Lake area. These subdivisions have all been modest in size (four or five lots), with most of the lots larger than required for zoning. There are other subdivisions in town which were built before the town adopted the State Laws for Subdivisions, MGL Chapter 41, at town meeting in 1974.

What Is a Subdivision?

Land has been divided all through the history of settled living and private property. As a family matured, children sometimes got land from parents. When settlements developed into towns and cities, the activities which used more space and returned less money (the Van Thunen theory of "highest and best use") were broken into smaller lots carrying higher-priced uses.

So, there are subdivisions and Subdivisions. The capitalized Subdivision is a special process which governs the creation of roads (sometimes town-owned, but in Monterey and most other suburban areas, the roads are privately maintained) which provide official access for the building of residences or businesses. In Monterey, we still have some property that can be subdivided by surveying lots along an official town way. But with two hundred feet of frontage along a

road needed to create a new lot, it is increasingly necessary to build new roads.

People sometimes dislike the amount of control which towns (and state laws) exercise over the layout and construction of new Subdivisions. But we are starting to understand the need for planning as our developments make increasing demands on water resources, public roads, government services and that elusive factor, "the character of the community."

That last quotation comes from our subdivision rules and regulations. I wasn't going to get into it here, but when you think about it, you really can't get away from the broad, subjective questions. Our individual actions *do* add up to something that affects us all. The more we develop, the more we have to coordinate. That's why government gets bigger and more expensive. Good communities don't happen automatically, and although our laws aren't very good, we have to work to make them more fair and efficient, to encourage the best possible development. Development means houses, of course. It also means places for business and resource sites (we still need farm fields and gravel pits somewhere), governmental and other services, *and* the open spaces from which all the other uses are taken.

So, the serious consideration of each new Subdivision is an important exercise in the life of our town. We may not have the best of tools to work with, but we have to use them to do the best for our town. We listen to the concerns of an abutter to a Subdivision to sort out the appropriate interests of those directly involved, trying to be fair to the abutter as well as the applicant, and all the while representing the interests of the town in maintaining the character of the community.

I always come back to that apt, if pessimistic line of Robert Frost: "Politics is about grievances; poetry is about the grief." Sometimes, it seems that the best we can do in our public life is to mediate grievances rather than to enjoy one another's presence in a beautiful spot on earth. At least, we should strive for that traditional goal of U.S.-Soviet relations: peaceful co-existence. Along the way, we should listen as much as possible to the wishes of our neighbors as we try to build a better town and country together. That's what our imperfect laws are meant to encourage.

— Wayne Burkhart



MONTEREY LIBRARY NOTES

The school year is quickly coming to a close, and the long, lazy days of summer stretch ahead of us. If the kids are looking for some fun things to do, the Monterey Library has a schedule of great activities.

As in past years, there will be a summer reading program to encourage kids to make books a vital part of their summer vacation. Children from pre-kindergarten to grade 6 will have reading logs they can complete at their own pace and which they can exchange for a variety of prizes. The more they read, the more they can win.

In addition, we have four exciting events planned. On June 27, at 10:00 a.m., we will kick off the summer reading program with a performance at the library by Goo-See the Clown. On July 11, at 10:00 a.m., Nicky Hearon will delight us with her story telling. On July 18, at 10:00 a.m., we will present a film festival of children's literature classics. The final event, on the evening of August 8, will be a trip to see the Pittsfield Mets. For this one, we'll need some parent volunteers for carpooling.

There's something for children of all ages at the Monterey Library, so plan to make it part of your child's summer.

— Laurie Shaw

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MONTEREY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

During the past year, the Berkshire County Commissioners started an inventory/survey of town records in the county. Barbara Swann and Cynthia Weber gathered material from the General Knox Museum for the preliminary index.

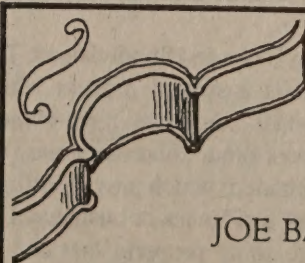
The Society also participated in a preservation needs survey sponsored by the Berkshire County Historical Society and conducted by the Northeast Document Conservation Center. The end result is a preliminary outline of a preservation management plan and qualification for future grants for document preservation.

The Historical Society has a number of events planned for the summer months. On Friday, June 19, Roy Boutard, former director of the Berkshire Garden Center, will speak on *World Class Botanical Gardens*. His talk will be illustrated with slides gathered on his many trips to Europe and visits to exceptional centers in this country. 7:30, in the General Knox Museum.

On Friday, July 10 (again at 7:30 in the General Knox Museum), the theme of our meeting will be *Monterey in Photographs*. There will be slides, prints and films, including the work of some of the Berkshires' most talented photographers. We'll also show the Japanese TV documentary on Monterey's 1968 town meeting. Look through your own local photo collection, and bring along your favorites for a show and tell session afterwards. The photo exhibit will remain open from 9:00-1:00 the next day, with showings of the TV documentary at 10:00 and noon.

On Friday, August 14, at 7:30, Donald McGrory will speak on *Oriental Rugs*.

Saturday, September 12, from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. is the time for our First Annual Plant Swap on the library lawn. This will be your chance to trade your choicest perennials for someone else's pride and joy.



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MONTEREY ROUND TABLE

The May 21 meeting of the Round Table again focused on *The Monterey Yellow Pages*, a booklet we are planning, which will list the names, addresses and phone numbers of Montereyans who have goods or services to offer. *The Yellow Pages* will be available at public places in town, and possibly in the *Monterey News*.

This directory will offer a way for the people of Monterey to support each other and take care of themselves. It will let people who aren't here much of the time know where to find local goods and services. And, last but not least, it will provide you with free advertising. You have nothing to lose. So, fill in the coupon below and send it, by June 10 to Angie Sherrard, Box 104, Monterey, MA 01245.

Starting next month, this column will include a *Help Wanted* component. It is designed for those looking for someone to do work for them, and also for people who are looking for work. For example, if you need someone to till a garden, or if you need a summer job, call me at 528-3974, and I will list it in the next issue.

The next meeting of the Round Table will be June 17, at 7:30 p.m., at Rock Ridge, the home of Alice and Arthur Somers. Our meetings are quite lively and open to anyone who loves Monterey. Someone attending for the second time recently said, "It's wonderful to have a place to discuss your concerns about the community." See you June 17!

— Angie Sherrard

MONTEREY GRANGE NEWS

The Grange has an exhibit at the Monterey Post Office in observance of Grange Week and the 125th anniversary of the National grange.

Monterey Grange #291 met May 6 for a variety program. Richard Trudeau was initiated into the Grange, and Tillie Butler and Anne Vickerman assisted with the degrees.

The Monterey Granger of the Year award was presented to Carl Jespersen by Master Tolitha Butler, who also presented floral gifts to Secretary Edna Leavenworth and her Assistants, Alice Shaffer and Patricia Holohan.

The public card party was held on May 16 and was a great success. Thanks to everyone who helped out.

Worthy Master Tolitha Butler and Treasurer Anne Vickerman recently helped West Stockbridge Grange #246 with the degrees.

The Grange met again on May 20, for a variety program. Deputy Robert Peck made his official visitation.

The Grange has been invited to Friendship Night at West Stockbridge Grange #246 on June 1. Lecturer Mary Wallace will be in charge of the program.

The Grange will provide cookies for the Red Cross coffee hour at Northampton Veterans Hospital. Cookies should be dropped off at the Lecturer's house on June 5.

The next meeting will be June 3 for election of officers. Members are urged to attend.

— Mary Wallace

MONTEREY YELLOW PAGES

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COUNCIL ON AGING

Welcome to Monterey's summer residents. We hope you will take advantage of the free blood pressure clinics and consultations by the Visiting Nurses Association, held the third Tuesday of each month from 9:00-10:30 a.m. downstairs at the town hall. And, don't forget that the Council on Aging has a table at the town hall with information of interest to senior citizens.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has recommended that localities offer the vaccine to protect against pneumococcal disease to senior citizens. Pneumococcal disease is a bacterial illness that can cause serious infections of the lungs (pneumonia), the bloodstream (bacteremia) and the covering of the brain (meningitis). These infections can cause death. Anyone can get these diseases, but people over the age of 65 are at higher risk.

One dose of the vaccine is considered protection for life; boosters are not recommended. There will be a nominal charge for the vaccine, under \$10. The vaccine will probably be available in August, and if people are interested, we will set up a date for a clinic. For more information, please call Gerry McMahon at 528-1409.



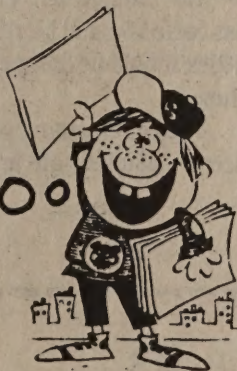
COMMUNITY DINNER NEWS

Spring was in the air the evening of May 13, when 35 people gathered at the church for a community dinner. Spring was on the tables as well, with a delightful variety of narcissus from the garden of Barbara Tryon. The buffet provided a marvelous array of colorful and delicious foods.

After dinner, Susan Bynack-Bolduc amazed us with the professional quality of the slides she took on her trip to Belize. She told us of a ninety-year-old witch doctor, of enormous, unattended Mayan ruins, of a conor trip down a river where children and ponies played together in the water, and of an untraditional zoo with wild animals behind chicken wire fencing. What a pleasant evening we all had.

The community dinner on June 10 will feature the *Sweet Swing Revival*, a local singing group with Kathy Maye, Tom Whaley-Wool, Ellen Pearson and Judy Hayes. Our July 8 dinner will feature a program about Cuba. Please come with a dish to share.

The
Latest
NEWS..



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DAY AND RESIDENT

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THE BIDWELL HOUSE

The Board of directors of The Bidwell House has announced the appointment of Lisa Simpson as the new Resident Director of the museum. Lisa is the former Curator of the Plainsboro Historical Society in Plainsboro, New Jersey, as well as the Special Projects Coordinator for the School of Architecture at Princeton University.

Before moving to New Jersey, Lisa was curator of the Knoxville Museum of Art in Knoxville, Tennessee and curator at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens in Memphis, Tennessee. She has also worked at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. and the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Born in Peoria, Illinois, Lisa grew up in Darien, Connecticut and Arlington Heights, Illinois. She earned degrees in art history and museum studies from the University of Tennessee and George Washington University.

Lisa is living at The Bidwell House with her husband, Gary Eveland, also a museum professional. She assumed her new position on May 18, in time for the third season opening of the museum on May 23.

The Bidwell House is open from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday, until mid-October. For more information, please call 528-6888.

LAKE GARFIELD ASSOCIATION

Mark your calendars! July 11 (raindate July 12) is the date of the canoe flotilla around Lake Garfield. David McAllester will narrate a floating tour of the lake, highlighting the local flora and fauna, telling us of the named and unnamed points of interest, and relating local lore.

The tour will start at the town beach at 10:00 a.m. We welcome all canoes, rowboats and pontoon boats, but no motor boats, please. We will try to find space in boats for those who don't have their own. To sign up, look for Lake Garfield Association members in front of the General Store on Saturday and Sunday mornings for the two weekends before the flotilla, or call Muriel Lazzarini at 528-5796.

Don't forget the first Lake Garfield Association meeting of the year, Saturday, June 27, 10:00 a.m. at the firehouse.

TRANSFER STATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

The annual furniture and bulky waste collection will be held on the following dates, during regular hours: July 1, 4, 5, 8, 11, 12. This is the time to dispose of the bedding, furniture and other household types of junk that you can't put into the compactor or the metal collection container. You may not dispose of demolition debris or toxic materials such as pesticides, chemicals and oil. For these items, you must contract with a private company.

Transfer station stickers will be available starting in June. The price is still only \$40.

If you have a question about whether a particular item will be accepted at the transfer station, please call Wayne Burkhart at 528-1114.

OPEN HOUSE AT THE FISH HATCHERY

On June 6, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., the Berkshire National Fish Hatchery will hold an open house in recognition of National Fishing Week.

There will be fishing clinics conducted by B.A.S.S., Trout Unlimited and the State Aquatic Resource Education Program, as well as a number of speakers who will talk about fishing-related topics.

Visitors are welcome to tour the station, talk to hatchery personnel, participate in the clinics, listen to the speakers and hike the nature trails.



BERKSHIRE HUMANE SOCIETY

The Berkshire Humane Society is a new organization that was formed to take over the operation of Berkshire County's *only* animal shelter. The shelter has always been owned and run by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The MSPCA is a private animal welfare organization which receives no government funds. When MSPCA officials decided to withdraw funding from the Berkshire shelter at the end of 1992, they offered to turn the facility over to a new, private local group. The Berkshire Humane Society is that group.

The Berkshire Humane Society is counting on local people for financial support. If we do not come forward, the shelter will close, and abandoned animals will have no place to go. BHS is committed to keeping the shelter open, improving the facility and establishing educational outreach programs to help people care for their companion animals. We're working hard to reduce the birth rate of unwanted animals, so that someday, every companion animal born will have a loving home for life.

If you'd like to support our work, either by becoming a member or volunteering time (or both!), please call the Berkshire Humane Society at 448-2228, or Alice Schick at 528-3128.

MONTEREY NATURE WALKS

There are still some openings in Bonner McAllester's nature walks for children. Please call 528-9385 for information and to register.

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FROM THE STATEHOUSE

As rising costs and declining state aid threaten the viability of all our local institutions, I am working hard to make sure that a fair share of local aid money makes it out to western Massachusetts from Boston.

I am proposing two amendments to the state budget which will return more money to towns in my district. The first involves restoration of the account for "in lieu of taxes" payments on state-owned land. As the Division of Forests and Parks and the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife acquire land, it is taken off the tax rolls. Since 1988, however, the state has not been paying towns any money to make up for this loss of revenue. Local officials from the four western counties are strongly supporting my amendment. I am now working to generate support on Beacon Hill, and am optimistic about its passage.

My other amendment is designed to insure that municipalities receive the full amount of gas tax revenue that is legally due them. The 21 cent per gallon gas tax generates approximately \$500 million each year. The state promised to give cities and towns 7.5% of these funds for Chapter 90 highway projects, but for years, the money has not been paid, leaving many of our roads and bridges in sad shape as a result. I am proposing that the state be forced to place \$40 million (7.5% of gas tax revenues) into a separate account to guarantee that cities and towns receive it in Fiscal Year 1993.

If you have questions about these proposals, or any other issue, please feel free to call me. The number for my district office in Pittsfield is 442-5240. My office in Boston can be reached at (617) 722-1625, or by writing to: Senator Jane Swift, State House Room 407, Boston, MA 02133.

FIRE COMPANY NEWS

Same day: the last Saturday in July, the 25. Same time: 5:00-7:00 p.m. Same place: the fire company pavillion. Same price: \$15. Same food: not quite. For the first time, we will be offering a choice to steak or swordfish. The price is the same for both, but you must decide which you want when you buy your ticket. Fire company members have the tickets and will be coming to your door. Remind us to give you the appropriate color ticket for your choice, and make sure to set aside that date for Monterey's biggest event of the year. As usual, all proceeds will go towards the mortgage on the firehouse. For further information, please call Mark Makuc at 528-1382.

ADOPT A ROADSIDE

In the interest of a cleaner and more beautiful Monterey, the Selectmen are sponsoring a program called *Adopt a Roadside*. The suggestion for the program came from Mickey Jervas, who offered to do regular roadside cleanups along Swann Road, and thought that others might be interested as well. The Selectmen then contacted Jack Ryder, who years ago started the annual roadside cleanup. Jack thought that Adopt a Roadside was a good idea, and he immediately volunteered to adopt part of Blue Hill Road.

Other adopters so far are: Leah Bohn, who will do Bidwell Road; Peter Brown, Corashire Road and Gige O'Connell, Curtiss Road.

Would you like to adopt a roadside? Or are you doing one already on an informal basis? In either case, please let the Selectmen know by calling the town offices at 528-1443. We'd like to know how the program is working.

INTERLAKEN SCHOOL OF ART

The Interlaken School of Art will open its doors for its first classes on July 7 at the Citizens Hall of Interlaken, in Stockbridge. As the Executive Director of the school, I'd like to tell you a little about its history and its plans, and invite you to take part.

When the Victorian school building became available last summer, local hand weaver Sam Kasten rented it and began working to realize his vision for a regional focal point for the fine arts and textiles. The school will serve novice, amateur and professional artists. It will offer three sessions of courses year-round to adults and children, and will also sponsor lectures and special programs. The school is now an incorporated, nonprofit institution with a board of directors, three staff members and eighteen artists hired as independent contractors.

The summer session will offer 24 classes, ranging in length from two hours to ten weeks. Most classes are for adults, but two children's classes will be offered. Classes will include watercolor painting, figure drawing, landscape painting, print making, sculpture, and weaving design, among others.

For more information, please call me, Jan Aerie at 528-0202.

MONTEREY WILDLIFE SURVEY

This has been an odd spring, with early starts and precipitate retreats. The sugar maple harvest turned out to be almost as good as last year's in spite of a late start, and was so reported from farther north in New England and Canada. There were early bird sightings and late ones. Bluebirds, for example, were around in April, but hadn't settled down to nesting as of mid-May!

The items below are generally for late April and the first half of May, unless otherwise noted. We have so many sightings reported that there isn't room to list the spotters, dates and places. If anyone wants this information on the wildlife reported here, call David McAllester at 528-1847.

Mammals: Baby opossums (several sightings); wildcat with three kittens; beavers (Lake Garfield and Royal Pond).

Birds nesting: Crows; herons; wild turkeys (and interbreeding with domestic ones); partridges; chickadees; Canada geese.

Birds sighted: Wild tom turkey with 18" beard; warblers: Blackburnian, yellow, chestnut-sided, palm, redstart; Maryland yellowthroat; sparrows: white-crowned, white-throated, song, chipping; goldfinches; flock of waxwings (in mid-March!); hummingbirds; tufted titmouse; juncos; bluebirds; pine siskins; woodpeckers: downy, hairy, pileated, flickers; Eastern kingbird; vultures; ovenbird; ravens; ducks: mallards, wood ducks; red-winged blackbirds; cowbirds; kingfishes; tree swallows; barn swallows.

Amphibians and reptiles: Snapping turtles; painted turtles; spotted salamander; Eastern newt; polliwogs (bullfrog); green frog.

Flowers recently gone by: Coltsfoot; bloodroot; arbutus; fawn lily.

Flowers in bloom: Dandelions; violets: Northern white, sweet white, round-leaved (yellow), common blue, Northern blue; wild strawberry, jack-in-the-pulpit; Dutchman's breeches; wild ginger; cowslip; lady's smock; trillium: white (large-flowered), painted, red (Wake Robin).

Shrubs and trees in bloom: Shadbush; moosewood; sweetfern; hazelnut (April); poplar; sugar maple; red maple (April); black birch; white birch; wild cherry: red, black.



WARRIOR DAYS

*We rowed the six miles to Jones Beach
Chappy and I;
Six miles of shifting currents, strong winds
And Chappy
Singing Japanese numbers to our oar strokes.*

ICHI, NI, SAN, SHI

*Motorboaters would stop
And ask us if we needed help
or a beer
or were we crazy?*

*But we did not stop
For our strength was only slightly stronger
Than the incoming tide.*

*That night,
I sat at the bar
And in a moment of silence,
I caressed my bruised and blistered palms
And loved the pain
Of my summer wounds.*

— Bill Meier

JUST TO SAY

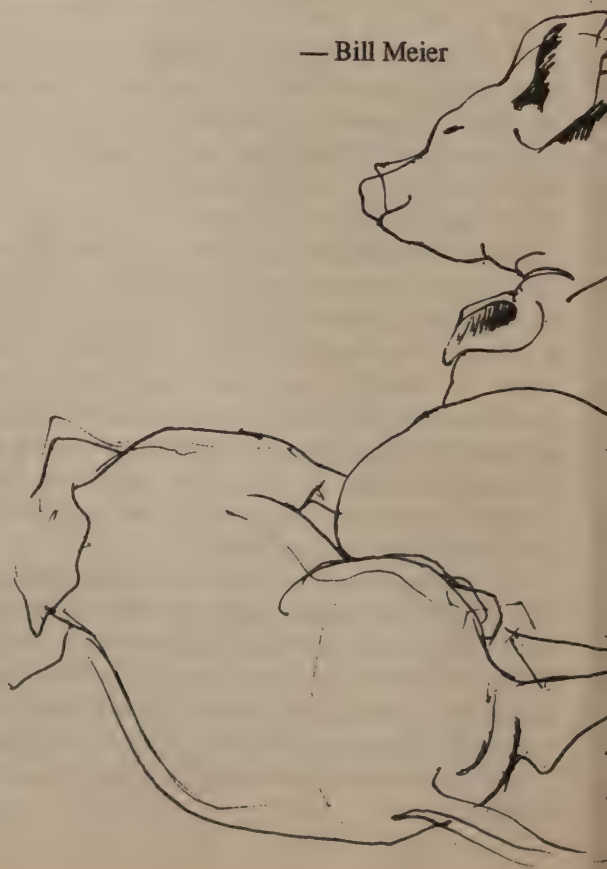
*A skunk is all right, if approached very warily
Yet coming up sudden the outcome is scarily
Not what you want. And your friend the raccoon
If displeased with your bread, will let you know
soon.*

*As for Chappie-the-Chipmunk who lives on the
porch
His tirades will certainly cause you to scorch,
Unless you will offer him peanuts or cheese
In attempts to — yes daily — his temper appease.*

*I must add that the fawn who runs near the river
Is always a friend, though an Indian-giver.
She promises sight of her Mammy at dawn
But when we look closely, there's no doe, just
fawn.*

*They keep us alert, on our toes, so to speak,
No time to feel pooped, or sit down and be weak.
Let's cherish these loved ones since some people
think
They bring us good luck — and quick as a wink.
Just to say . . .*

— Sue Moody



SPRINGTIME REVEILLE

*When I awake at daybreak
And hear a robin sing
Among the apple blossoms
And lilacs in the spring,
As a soft breeze blows their fragrance
Across my window sill
I can hear the distant drumming
Of a partridge on the hill.
Then the clear notes of the oriole
Salute the warm spring air
As the brook is swiftly rushing
By green willows bending there.
I rejoice that it is springtime
And I am here to see
All these wonders of creation
God has given you and me.*

— Eleanor Kimberley



JUNE

*June is the time to walk in the woods,
The new growth there to see,
Wee little plants all over the place,
Emerald candles on the tip of each tree.*

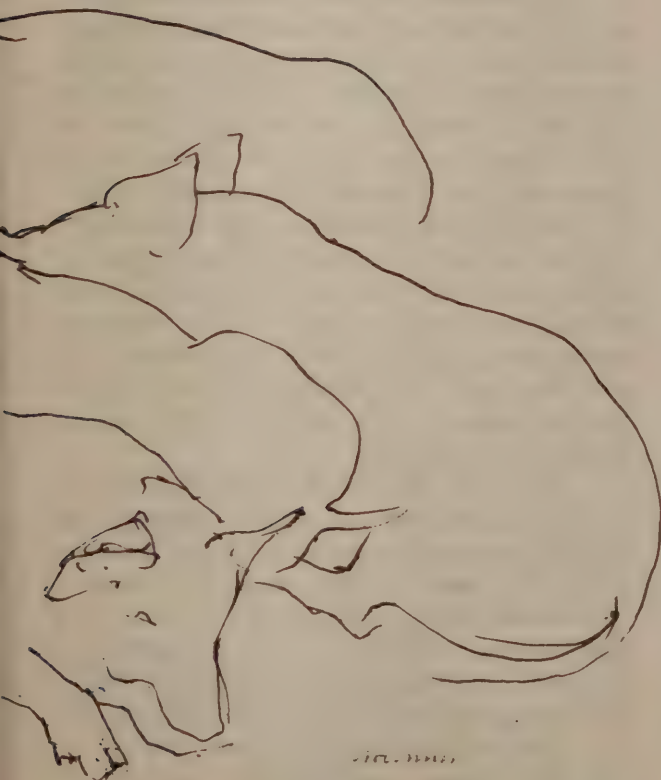
*New life is being added,
To what was already there,
A lesson for us to keep trying
To make our lives more fair.*

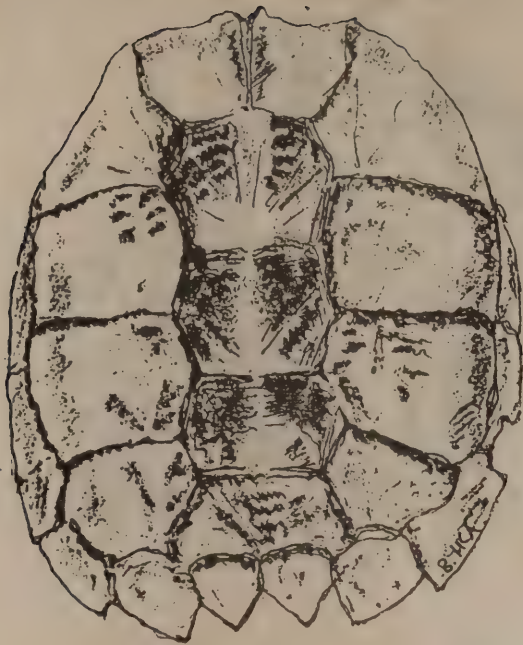
*Looking up to the heavens,
Competition is everywhere.
The trees all want to be noticed
In their new spring and summer wear.*

*Hemlock competing with pine,
Birch and maple are doing the same.
White oak is always a little bit late,
When the other trees play this game.*

*Then you look to where you are standing,
You see ferns and blossoms galore.
These are the plants that need the shade,
To carpet the forest floor.*

— Sheldon Fenn
in Woodburn Farm





Snapping turtle carapace, found during winter drawdown of Lake Garfield

THE VOICE OF THE TURTLE

In the Old Testament, in the song of Solomon, there is a passage that seems just right for us here in Berkshire County, at the end of a long and trying cold spring.

“For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land.”

Scholars tell us that the turtle of which Solomon sings is in fact the turtle dove, and maybe this is so, although I say, how can anyone be sure? The passing of centuries, the translators, the poetic mists of time have surely produced an interpreter's nightmare — or opportunity, depending on how you look at it. We have the most lovely and vocal bunch of turtle doves around here, and I wouldn't want to deny them their place in poetry. But the turtle who sang to me most recently, and maybe to Solomon, too, was a turtle.

I was headed to town for ballet, kids in the back seat, when I saw her on the highway. She stood up surprisingly tall on her four grey legs, and she was headed slowly across, against terrible odds. I slowed my metal monster, put on the blinkers, and stopped to watch her cross.

The big snapping turtle saw me or sensed me, my engine still running, and engaged her first line of

defense against all enemies. She stopped and held still, tucking in her appendages as much as she could, crouching low on the asphalt.

On this pale spring afternoon, there wasn't much traffic. I backed up, pulled over, and climbed out of my own armor. Naked, I approached her, thinking I'd pick her up and carry her across the road in the direction she'd been heading. When I got close enough, she engaged behavior number two, what you do when the enemy keeps coming. She stood up and ran. I never knew a snapping turtle had such long, straight legs and could move so fast. Still no cars approached, and she had nearly cleared the eastbound lane, when for some reason she switched to number three: turn and confront.

“Well,” I said, “this will never do. A big truck could come around the bend any minute and wipe us both out.”

Her shell, her top armor or carapace, was big and smooth. I thought I could get hold of it without coming close to her famous jaws. Bending over, I was about to life her when she sprang at me!

This is when she spoke, and I heard her clear song in my innermost soul — in fact, I can hear it still. I was so startled that I engaged my own defensive behavior number one: I jumped back, my heart pounding. The kids saw me from inside the car. “Mom! Are you all right?”

This turtle surprised me, scared me, and spoke to me. She snapped her big beak, she turned her jagged backside to me, inviting me to grab her big tail. I know what she does with that tail. If you are a dog or a fox and grab it in your jaws, she will thrash it back and forth, bruising and tearing your soft muzzle on the pointy edge of her carapace. I did not grab her tail.

Risking my life at the hands of the next big truck, I stepped back from her, giving her enough distance to engage defense number two again. She did not do this immediately. She had to settle down, and so did I. I saw she had damp earth on her shell and on her head. Her eyes were ringed with moisture, and I knew she had been up laying her eggs somewhere and was now headed back to the lake.

This is the time you'll see the big snappers, sometimes at great distances from the nearest water, scooping out nests in gravel or sand banks, or even in freshly tilled garden patches. They leave twenty to forty round white eggs, and probably all of them will be scooped up by a lucky skunk within a few hours. Even so, the Common Snapping Turtle endures, thrives, as it has for millions of years with no change in design.

She is considered primitive, and I won't take up that anthropocentric and somewhat semantic argument

here. The main point is that she spoke to me. I heard her, responded appropriately to her. We had a meeting of the minds, or of the behaviors, which some might call primitive, but which I call wonderful. In these times, when a person of my species can so easily feel isolated and far from the long-term path to evolutionary survival, the voice of the turtle is a comfort. I like it that I can still hear her. I'm sorry I upset her, and I'm glad we both survived the highway.

— Bonner J. McAllester

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WHO'S WHO IN MONTEREY

Vikki True

One of the most versatile musicians in the Berkshires is Monterey's Vikki True. The story of how she made her way into the show business world, singing, acting and dancing, is a memorable one. She was born into a musical family in Louisville, Kentucky. Her mother played piano and organ, and Vikki's debut was a solo in church at the age of six. She studied dance with Bill Ramser for twelve years, and was a dancer and apprentice in the Louisville Shakespeare in the Park in 1966. When she went to the University of Kentucky to study voice, she was heard by a folk-jazz group when she performed at a local coffee house. They invited her to join them on a nine-week tour in the Midwest, and her travels had begun.

She had a stint at the Indiana University School of Music as a coloratura soprano and found that this was not her metier. Her real learning took place in Kansas City in the early '70s. "Kansas City was school for me. The effects of the Prendegast era still lingered on, the city was wide open, full of jazz, and I soaked it up. I sat in on jazz sessions, and I started listening to the records of Ma Rainey, Louis Armstrong, Billie Holliday,

John Lee Hooker, Memphis Minnie and Memphis Slim. I really got into the Blues."

Vikki was also influenced by Joan Baez and Judy Collins, but was most drawn to Buffy Ste. Marie and Odetta. "These stayed with me. I learned that it was OK to express that kind of emotion in song. It was a freeing experience!"

Vikki toured with Band X in the South for a year, and then she moved to Minneapolis and joined the show band, Bacchus. "That's when I became a real professional, working all the time, fifty weeks a year. The training I'd had kept me from wrecking my voice. Instead, it became more fluid, and the bottom of my range developed. I learned that the artist constantly hones whatever instrument she has so that it becomes the conduit for an energy within that is greater than oneself."

In 1979, she studied voice with Harris Balko, and she sought out Steve Keuther, the best jazz pianist in the area and a professor at the University of Wisconsin, to see if they could work together. Later, he confessed that when she came to his house, "your chutzpah floored me!" But, indeed, they could work together, and he took her on the road with the University of Wisconsin Touring Company, and she played the lead in *Gypsy*. Then she and Keuther worked as a duo six nights a week for a year.

In 1980, she moved back to Louisville and had a long-term job at Joe's Palm Room, one of the principal centers of jazz performance in the city. She had the stimulus of many outstanding jazz artists as colleagues there: Helen Humes, Johnny Lyttle, Arnie Lawrence, Tommy Newsom. Vikki and her friends formed their own group, the Chameleons. They did a show at the jazz club, On Broadway, that was scheduled to run for a week, but was so successful that it ran for three years. "So, now I can say I performed 'on Broadway.'"

Vikki's schedule in the '80s was exciting, artistically broadening, and exhausting. "I began to lose touch with who I am. I only felt real when I was on stage." It was time for Vikki to consider where her life was going, and this is where the Berkshires come in. She was in the hospital with a broken leg, when a surprise visitor turned out to be Robert Logsdon, who had been her teenage sweetheart. They have been together since that visit, and because he was living in the Berkshires, he brought her here. They came to Monterey almost four years ago.

Robert is a Lazure method painter and muralist. He does walls with semi-transparent layers of color, giving translucent, luminous cloud and aurora borealis effects. He does the walls wherever they happen to be,

and also compresses these abstract designs on vivid canvases in his studio at home. Vikki often helps with the murals and says that she has discovered team painting to be "a special kind of dance."

Since Vikki moved to Monterey, she has settled with great pleasure into country living, but she is also busy with music and theater. She has been a regular at the Berkshire Public Theatre in Pittsfield since 1988, and starred there, earlier this year in a one-woman musical, *Music Minus One*. She was Sophie Tucker at the Odetts Cabaret in *Sophie, Totie and Belle* last year, and has also performed at the Tri-Arts, the American Opera House, the Sharon Playhouse, the Center Theater in Chicago, and several venues in Albany. She develops her special skills as "belter" (a good, loud singer who can be heard over any combination of instruments), voice coach, guitarist, percussionist, tap dancer, dialectician and snake handler (!). She performs with several instrumental groups.

Whatever she does, it is with the intent of realizing the best in herself. By means of the creative arts, "we become one with our higher power. Those moments are forever!" Montereyans can hear Vikki in four performances at the Lion's Den at the Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge in June and July. She will appear on the last two Sunday evenings of each month.

— David P. McAllester

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ELEANOR KIMBERLEY

Maynard and Gale Forbes recently received the Community Citizen award from the Monterey Grange. This award is presented each year to a non-Granger who has done outstanding service in the community. Master Tillie Butler is making the presentation, while Anne Vickerman and Carl Jespersen extend congratulations from the Grange.

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CLIFFORD R. HART

Clifford Russell Hart, 82, of Marble Street, Lee, died May 7 at Fairview Hospital. He had lived in Monterey until he moved to Lee in June, 1988.

A native of Monterey, he was born on June 16, 1909, son of Clarence and Ida L. Wade Hart. He attended the former Corashire School. He served as a marksman and combat infantryman with the Army in Central Europe and France during World War II.

He worked in the late 1920s hauling lumber for the Cronks in Ashley Falls. After the war, he worked for the Monterey Highway Department for thirteen years, and then became compactor operator for Berkshire Cleanways. He retired in the mid-1980s.

He leaves a daughter, Gloria Hart of the state of Florida, and a sister, Mrs. Louise E. Hall, of Winchester, New Hampshire.

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PERSONAL NOTES

Congratulations to **Jason W. Weber**, son of **Leonard and Cynthia Weber**, of Main Road, who graduated summa cum laude from the University of Massachusetts on May 24. Jason was an eight-semester dean's list student, a participant in the honors program in the School of Management and designated a Commonwealth Scholar on graduation. In his junior year, he was elected to Beta Gamma Sigma, the national business administration honor society, and as a graduating senior won the General Business and Finance Department Faculty Award and the Wall Street Journal Award. Jason is now living in the Boston area, where he begins his career as a financial analyst for N.C.R. on June 1.

Best wishes to **Ami Weitz** and **David Voutour**, who will be married on June 6 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Ami is the daughter of **Paul and Ida Weitz** of Tyringham Road.

Congratulations to Monterey students named to the third quarter honor roll lists. At Monument Mountain Regional High School, **Marta Makuc** in Grade 11, **Erin** and **Meghan Sadlowski** in Grade 10, and **Joshua Aerie** and **Paul Makuc** in Grade 9 all achieved High Honors for the quarter. Wow! And, at Mount Everett Regional High School, in Grade 12, **Jill Amstead** made Honors; in Grade 11, **Christopher Burkhart**, **Allison Delmolino** and **Michael Ohman** made Honors; in Grade 10; **Leah Bohn** made High Honors; and in Grade 9, **Erin Piretti** made High Honors. Also, in Grade 8, **Vanessa Halley** and **Jason Tanner** made Honors; and in Grade 7, **Shaylan Burkhart** and **William Conklin** made High Honors, and **Morgan Clawson** and **Jared Thomson** made Honors. It's great to see all those Monterey names. Keep up the good work, all of you!

On April 30, Monument Mountain Regional High School held its annual academic awards assembly. Award recipients were selected by departmental consensus for outstanding academic achievements and positive contributions to school and community. Hats off to **Joshua Aerie** and **Marta Makuc**, who received music awards, and to **Erin** and **Meghan Sadlowski**, who received technology education awards.

Congratulations, also, to Monterey's Berkshire Country Day School students who recently received academic awards. **Morgan Schick**, an eighth grader received a maxima cum laude certificate and a silver medal (missing a gold medal by one point) for his

performance on the National Latin Exam. And **Oriana Raab**, also an eighth grader, received a seventh place in level 1 of the Grand Concours de Francais.

Very Happy Birthday wishes to **John Higgins** on June 16, to **Sandy Gottlieb** on June 18, to **Christopher Blair** and **Pam Gauthier** on June 19, to **Alice Schick** on June 20, to **Margrit Schuler**, who will celebrate her 90th on June 24, and to **Eileen Clawson** and **Colm Higgins** on June 28.

And, Happy Anniversary to **John and Stella Hogan** on June 8, to **Mark and Tracey Mendel** on June 14, to **Sandy and Rita Gottlieb** on June 21, and to **Joel and Alice Schick**, who will celebrate their 25th on June 22.

Please continue to share your news, birthdays, accomplishments, etc. Your contributions are appreciated! Just give me a call at 528-4519, or jot down your items and drop them in the mail to me, Just Route 23. Thanks so much!



— Stephanie Grotz

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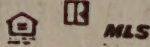


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CALENDAR

Tuesday, June 2—Prayer Breakfast. 7:00 a.m. at Rock Ridge, the home of Alice and Arthur Somers.

Wednesday, June 10—Community Dinner. 6:30 p.m. in the church basement. For more information, see *Community Dinner News* elsewhere in this issue.

Thursday, June 11—Friends of Silence, prayer meeting. 7:30 a.m. at Rock Ridge, the home of Alice and Arthur Somers.

Saturday, June 13—SQUARE AND CONTRA DANCE, New England style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. Beginners and children welcome. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Adults \$4, children \$1 to dance until intermission. Information: 528-9385.

Tuesday, June 16—Free Blood Pressure clinic. 9:00-10:30 a.m., downstairs at the town hall.

Wednesday, June 17—Monterey Round Table meeting. 7:30 p.m. at Rock Ridge, the home of Alice and Arthur Somers.

Friday, June 19—Monterey Historical Society meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the General Knox Museum at the library. For more information, see *Monterey Historical Society* elsewhere in this issue.

Saturday, June 20—Monterey Town Beach opens for the summer season.

Saturday, June 27—Lake Garfield Association meeting. 10:00 a.m. at the firehouse.

Saturday, June 27—Performance by Goo-See the Clown to kick off the summer reading program. 10:00 a.m. at the library. For more information, see *Monterey Library Notes* elsewhere in this issue.

Saturday, June 27—SQUARE AND CONTRA DANCE. New England style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. This program is for people who have some square or contra dance experience. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Admission \$4. Information: 528-9385.



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Drawings in this issue by Maureen Banner, Ben Laux, Bonner McAllester, Anne O'Connor, Vicki Reed and Joel Schick.

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